

SC 03527-66

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SC-03527-66

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27 September 1966

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: Briefing of the CIA Subcommittee of House Appropriations -  
21 September 1966**

1. The Director met with the CIA Subcommittee of House Appropriations for about an hour and fifteen minutes beginning at nine o'clock. Present from the Subcommittee were:

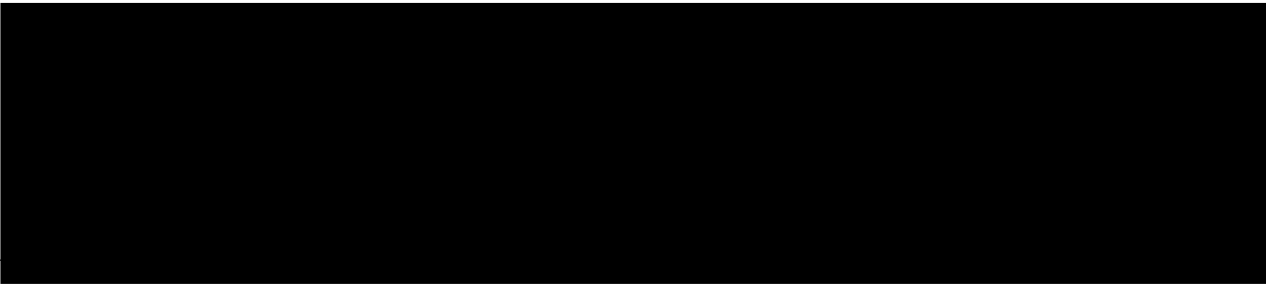
George H. Mahon, Chairman  
George W. Andrews  
Glenard P. Lipscomb

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and Mr. Frank T. Bow who arrived at about 9:20 a.m. Mr. Robert L. Michaels, Staff Assistant, was present. Accompanying the Director was [REDACTED] Prior to the briefing, a technical sweep was made and there was monitoring during the hearing. No transcript was taken.

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2. The Director mentioned the President's nomination of Admiral Taylor stating he was very happy to have him coming aboard.



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4. The Director discussed the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] (Details retained in OGC copy only)

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5. Mr. Helms furnished to the Subcommittee a document  
[REDACTED]

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This document was left with the Subcommittee since they all exhibited a keen interest in going over it.

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6. The Director pointed out that we had recently secured certain information regarding [REDACTED] which will enable us to collect extremely valuable intelligence for some time to come. The Director cautioned that this was highly sensitive information and Chairman Mahon urged the members to be particularly careful in this regard.

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7. Mr. Helms then discussed Vietnam briefly utilizing the attached paper. He also discussed in general terms, "The Will to Persist" study furnishing the general conclusions. Mr. Andrews inquired the Director's view on progress of the war. The Director pointed out there had been no major Communist operations during the monsoon season and that certainly the military picture was better. He stated, however, that the military victory will not solve the problems and there must be continuing efforts on the civic side. In response to a question as to how to stop the supplies going to the south, the Director stated the three steps necessary would be (1) blockading Haiphong, (2) interdicting the two main rail lines in China, and (3) stepping up the bombing campaign of the military and industrial complex. The Director stated that this increases the risks that China might enter the war and that our estimate on this is that if the North Vietnamese government went into a total collapse, the ChiComs might enter the war.

8. The Director then discussed the situation in Communist China generally following the attached briefing. In response to a question, he discussed our knowledge of Mao's health, pointing out that we had good reports on this situation and that obviously he did not take his famous swim.

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9. In response to a question, Mr. Helms stated that the ChiComs are preparing for their fourth nuclear shot which may occur in the next month or so.

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In answering questions, he discussed very briefly the Soviet and French nuclear weapons programs.

10. The Director then touched on the Dominican Republic utilizing the attached briefing and commented that many of the coup reports are emanating from Bosch and that while we have no evidence of the imminence of a military coup this, of course, could occur at almost any time. The Director then went on to discuss the situation in the Caribbean Islands generally and pointed out that Haiti has been making some overtures to the black muslims to develop foreign exchange.

11. The Director then touched on Uruguay, giving the essence of the attached briefing.

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12. There was an inquiry about [redacted] and the Director pointed out that we were not involved in this one [redacted] and that it might be necessary for an Agency official to testify to this at the trial which starts next week.

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13. Mr. Andrews complimented the Director on his depth of knowledge and scope of knowledge on the subjects covered. Mr. Bow added his compliments also.

14. The meeting adjourned at about 10:15 a.m.

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Legislative Counsel

Attachment

Copy 1 - OGC/LC

Copy 2 - DCI thru Ex Dir

Copy 3 - ADDP

Copy 4 - D/PPB

Copy 5 - [redacted]

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